Violation of Human Organ Transplantation Act

*135. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that not a singly conviction has taken place since the enactment of Human Organ Transplantation Act 14 years back, despite the fact that several kidney rackets have been busted during this period;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that offenders arrested in such cases from hospitals get released soon thereafter and seldom face prosecution; and

(d) if so, what steps Government proposes to take to secure the conviction of offenders involved in kidney racket?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMA DOSS): (a) to (d) Sale and purchase of human organs is already banned under the provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994. Health is a State subject. The Appropriate Authorities appointed under Section 13 of the said Act by the Central and the State Governments, are empowered to investigate any complaint of breach of provisions of the Act including those pertaining to sale and purchase of human organs. This Act already contains stringent provisions for punishing removal of human organs without authority and for commercial dealings in human organs.

Incidents of looting in trains

†*136. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of looting passengers by offering them food laced with drugs have increased in the past few days;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps for the security of passengers and their luggage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a marginal increase in number of incidents of looting of passengers giving them eatables laced with drugs reported over Indian Railways during the year 2007 as compared to the previous year. During the year 2007, in all 725 such cases were reported as against 714 cases reported in the year 2006.

(b) and (c) Following preventive measures are being taken to prevent incidents of drugging in trains and Railway premises:—

1. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with local police and GRP for better exchange of intelligence regarding criminal gangs indulging in such activities and joint strategy are formulated to effectively contain the crime.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2. Affected/vulnerable stations and trains have been identified and more attention is being paid in identified sections/trains to avert occurrence of such cases. Decoy checks are also being conducted at affected stations and in affected trains to apprehend the culprits red-handed.

3. All Thana In-charge have been instructed to conduct drives against persons indulging in drugging offences in trains, platforms and passenger areas.

4. The train escorting parties are being briefed to remain extra vigilant in trains at the affected stations/sections.

5. All out efforts are being made in coordination with GRP/City Police to collect and share criminal intelligence for the apprehension of the offenders.

6. Necessary announcements are frequently being made through Public Address system and use of loud hailers at the general coaches of the trains and during line bandobast to sensitize passengers to desist from purchasing/accepting eatables from unauthorized hawkers and unknown persons while travelling by train or at the platform.

7. Posters/Pamphlets with cautionary indication against the menace of drugging are being circulated and pasted at conspicuous places at the station and in the trains to create awareness amongst the travelling passengers.

8. Videography of persons standing in queue for boarding general coaches are being done to identify the offenders in cases of such incidents.

9. Dossier of culprits involved in the drugging cases have been circulated to all Thanas and provided with escorting staff.

10. Specific guidelines have also been issued by the DG/RPF for preparation of appropriate plans to effectively control the incidents of drugging on Railways. Anti drugging cells are being set up at each Zonal Railways Hqrs. under the command of a Gazetted Officer, which will examine in details.

Employees in PSUs

*137. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of permanent employees working in public sector undertakings under the administrative control of his Ministry as on 31st March 2007; unit-wise; and

(b) The number of contract/casual/contingency workers working in these units as on 31st March, 2007?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) and (b) The information is as follows: